

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00137 200623Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /084 W

-----200924Z 109161 /15

R 200111Z JAN 77

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7116

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 137

NOFORN

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CH, NZ

SUBJECT: MORE SPECULATION CONCERNING TENG'S RETURN

1. CHINESE PUBLICATIONS CLERK ASKED USLO OFFICER ON JANUARY 19 WHETHER HE HAD BEEN TO TIENANMEN ON JANUARY 8 AND FOLLOWING. WHEN USLO OFFICER REPLIED IN AFFIRMATIVE, CLERK SAID "THEN YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THE ARDENT DESIRE OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE IS." USLO OFFICER EXPRESSED UNCERTAINTY, ELICITING FROM CLERK A VERY POSITIVE "THE CHINESE PEOPLE WISH FOR THE RETURN OF COMRADE TENG HSIAO-PING AS OUR PREMIER." ASKED WHY, HE RESPONDED WITH EQUAL CERTITUDE "BECAUSE THEN OUR ECONOMY WILL PROGRESS RAPIDLY." THE CLERK WOULD NOT BE DRAWN OUT, HOWEVER, ON THE LIKELY TIMING OF TENG'S RETURN OR THE REASONS FOR TENG'S FAILURE TO REAPPEAR THUS FAR.

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2. INDIAN EMBOFF WHO REGULARLY SOUNDS OUT LOCAL CHINESE EMPLOYEE'S OPINIONS ON POLITICAL EVENTS TELLS US THAT HIS SOURCE ALLOWS THAT TENG WAS UNFAIRLY MALIGNED BY THE GANG OF FOUR BUT HEDGES AS TO THE TIME AND METHOD OF HIS RETURN. LOCAL EMPLOYEE OF NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY, ASKED SIMILAR QUESTIONS BY NEW ZEALAND EMBOFF, SAID MERELY THAT

TENG'S HEALTH WAS NOT TOO GOOD (T'A TE SHEN-T'I PU TA HAO).

3. NEW ZEALAND EMBOFF HAS ALSO TOLD US THAT A GROUP OF NEW ZEALAND PARLIAMENTARIANS, EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO VISIT THE PRC IN THE SPRING, WERE ADVISED THAT APRIL 5 WOULD BE AN "INCONVENIENT" ARRIVAL DATE BUT THAT APRIL 10 WOULD BE QUITE ACCEPTABLE. COMMENT: APRIL 5 IS THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE HIGH TIDE OF THE TIENANMEN DEMONSTRATIONS LAST YEAR, AND THE OUTSIDE TARGET DATE FOR DISPOSAL OF THE TENG HSIAO-PING PROBLEM IF THE LEADERSHIP WISHES TO DEFUSE POSSIBLE MASS DEMONSTRATIONS IN HIS FAVOR.
GATES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PEKING00137
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
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ISecure: 1
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORE SPECULATION CONCERNING TENG'S RETURN
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CH, NZ, (TENG HSIAO-PING)
To: STATE HONG KONG
Type: TE
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